REVOLUTIONARY NEW-YORK.

A GLANCE AT THE CLINTON MANUSCRIPTS.

GEORGE W. CLINTON'S REPORT OF HIS WORK TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS. [At a meeting of the Board of Regents of the

State University in the Senate Chamber at Albany on Thursday evening a large audience listened with pleasure to an historical paper read by George W. Clinton, one of the Regents, the only surviving son of Dewitt Clinton, to whom has been assigned the work of indexing and preparing for publication the George Clinton manuscripts and other kindred papers of the Revolution committed by the Legislature to the Regents for this purpose. His snowwhite hair and the lines which cross his face told of great age, but his account of the progress of his work, printed in full below, showed that his mental vigor has not been impaired.)

MR. CLINTON'S PAPER.

To the Regents of the University. The undersigned, to whom you have committed the task of indexing and preparing for publication the George Clinton papers, most respectfully reports that he has during the past year continued to devote his utmost strength for the utmost possib e time to its performance. The work has so far to him been a pleasure. He has become enamored of it, and be prays that God will enable him to finish it and so end the labors of a long, inglorious, but he trusts a not altogether uscless life. There is indeed in this mamense mass of undigested papers very much, as I believe, undiscovered to our country, to prove that the Revolutionary war was in truth a constant succession of "times that tried men's souls"; to confirm the love of liberty so dearly won, to heighten our love and reasonable reverence for the men who won it; to teach the folly of factions hate, and to inspire those who are to succeed us with a pure ambition.

Since my last report the library has acquired large collection of the papers George Clinton left behind him. I have had no opportunity to sift these papers and estimate their value as additions to the co lection in my hands, but while, from a single cursory view of them, I apprehend that the great mass of them consist of papers relating to purely personal affairs, there are among them other papers which fill gaps in the collection I am at work upon, and many that supply new master of public interest, and especially some of the correspondence of George Clinton in his latest years and while Vice-President of the United States.

THE DIARY OF CHARLES CLINTON. The library has also acquired the original diary of Charles Clinton, the father of George and James Clinton, during his passage from Ireland to America in 1729, bound up with the journal of the campaign, July to October, 1758, in which as a colonel he participated. Only the latter is of any public interest and I believe that it or its material parts have heretofore been published. It has also acquired the account book of Charles Clinton from 1729 to 1756 and a book of minutes kept by him of his proceedings as a magistrate of Ulster County, and of surveys made by him. In these a very cursory examination detected nothing of the least moment to the public. There is that in them, indeed, which confirms my belief that the father of my grandfather and great uncle was a careful and thorough business man, a worthy gentleman and a true

Charles Dewitt, of Ulster County, was one of George Clinton's earliest and most intimatefriends. We have in the Clinton papers the official certificate of the election of the two friends by the freeholders of Ulster County to represent it and assist his Majesty's Commander-in-Chief in a general assembly to be held on the 14th day of February 1776. That assembly of course was never held. Charles Dewitt was a member of the Provincial Convention of the Provincial Congress, and of the Council of Safety, and in 1784 he was a Delegate to Congress. He was a man of mark and influence, and must have left papers of general interest, and that may throw light upon the career of his friend, George Clinton. Sutherland Dewitt, esq., of Elmira, his lineal descendant, has many of them. I am very happy in

having his promise that all shall be deposited in the

State Library. PROGRESS OF THE WORK.

The George Clinton papers intrusted to me are calendered. That work was ably performed, I know not how many years ago, by Orville Holley. These papers are bound in volumes and numbered consecutively. The calender takes up the papers in the order of their dates, actual or assumed, and referring to them by numbers in accordance with the dates, gives brief statements of their natures or principal subjects, but it could not and does not inform those who consult it of the minor matters embraced in them, nor of the argument and spirit of the writer, nor of his remarks and opinions about individuals or bodies of men who were active in or whose interests were involved in the matters in discussion. Here, for instance, were letters from the committee of Tryon County to George Clinton as to the state of affairs in that county with mentions of Derloch and of the "great resolutions" there and of the acts of named Tories and Whigs, and perhaps of a paltry incursion of Indians and painted Tories, and the slaughter of some, the heroic defence of others, of our people; but of these proceedings there is not, nor could there well be any, the least mention. An entry in the calendar of a letter of the New-York Delegates in Congress is simply that "they apply for money from the State to pay their necessary expenses," etc. But this gives us no hint of the sufferings they were enduring from inability to pay what the Philadelphians demanded, "£270 Continental money a week for Gentleman and Servant, exclusive even of table beer," nor that "everything else was in proportion, and exchange sixty for one," There too are letters from New-York statesmen to

each other expressive not only of trust but of affection, but the trust and affection are not even intimated in the calendar. And so it is with the grand views of policy and the strong arguments, and, if you please, what may now seem to us the contracted notions in some particulars, of the men who in those times of suffering, uncertainty and dread framed the first Constitution of New-York and made her eminent among her sisters.

CONDITION OF THE INDEX. Believing that a full index was not on y necessary to the bringing of all such facts and circumstances to light, but also that it would prove a great help in selecting the matter which ought to be given to the public, I have devoted all my time to preparing it. Every paper has been read and studied; from every paper every particular which, in my judgment, could be of any worth to any of our citizens or contribute in the least to the true history of the times was noted under what seemed to me a proper head for the index; the notes were, as usual, separated and placed in lettered boxes. I have been very jealous of my time, and have, so far as possible, shunned everything which could interrupt the prosecution of my labors. This undertaking has proven far more severe than I anticipated when I began it, and I sometimes fear that my strength will not suffice for its completion.

It is true that the index is completed in the rough about half way through G, and that the material m the rougs for the remainder is all prepared. But as I think I have stated to you in a previous report, there are materials outside the papers which ought to be looked up; matters which are sometimes necessary to a proper understanding of the papers themselves and which, when interpreted by notes, explain and justify, so far as such acts can be justified, the seeming harshness and folly of our fathers Some philosopher has said that the history of a State is written in its laws. It is more correct, perhaps, to say that its laws are an important part of the history of the State, that in a free State they are the fruit of the spirit of the people and are in general colored and determined by it. To appreciate the spirit of our people in the war of the Revolution we must fully realize that the laws they submitted themselves unto were tyrannous in the extreme and marked by seeming felly. That a people should cheerfully and unanimously submit to them was impossible; promise is not performance-bills of credit were not money, and could not be made to perform its office.

REVOLUTIONARY LAWS. Laws fixing prices of grain and flour are stupidly injurious and oppressive and give birth to crime-

prices enormous, and hence we find in the statutes of that time taxes payable in kind, laws for the seizure of so much of the farmer's produce as was not needed for his own use, fixing inadequate prices therefor, payable in certificates. There too was an embargo act; a partially successful attempt in restriction of traffic with ourneignbors. How can we believe our people wise or in love with liberty unless we know the great emergency which reconciled them to such preposterons and oppressive legislation?

These laws were the inevitable fruits of a great public necessity—they were believed to be neces-

These laws were the inevitable fruits of a great public necessity—they were believed to be necessary to enable Congress to keep our armies in the field, and our people, in their submission to these laws, exhibited an almost unexampled self-sacrifoing wisdom. The embargo was recommended for adoption by Congress, and our statesmen reluctantly enacted it. They yielded only to direful necessity in recommending and passing laws so distressful and so contrary to policy and justice in ordinary times. The statute books must be resorted to; the journals of the Senate and Assembly must be consulted, with the messages of the Governor, and sometimes, though rarely, the newspapers of the period, to make clear portions of the George Chinton papers and to enable the humble index-maker by brief notes to make the index just to the founders of our great Republic and an epitome of the history of its share in the vindication of our independence.

INTEREST OF THE PAPERS. These papers are indeed very varied in their nature. They are rich in materials for personal history. They contain much that seems valuable to the local historian, and a duly annotated selection from them would, I believe, present to the least imaginative reader a living picture of the struggle in New-York. They outreach New-York and show in the foundation of the Constishow in the foundation of the Constitution of the United States and the noble part New-York took in making that foundation firm. They make good her claim to the first and most effectual section, if not to he origination of the cession of the Western Territory to the United States, a cession which ended forever the shadowy and conflicting claims of the individual states therether.

the shadowy and conflicting claims of the individual States thereto.

They contain, too, matters of interest which are not strictly of State concern. My work so far I am glad to state has yielded some fruit. A few good citizens have been gratified with a more thorough knowledge of their forefathers, "The Journals of the Provincial Congress, Provincial Convention, Committee of Safety and Council of Safety of the State of New-York," published by order of the Legislature in 1842, is invaluable and frequent references to it are had in the index.

MISSING JOURNALS OF THE ASSEMBLY, The proceedings of the Committee of Safety of the 13th of December, 1776, appear in the Journal, and then there is a hiatus and the next appearance of the Committee in session is on the first day of January, 1777. The editor remarks (vol. 1, p. 752) that "a portion of the proceedings seems missing." The George Clinton papers supply, I cannot say how thoroughly, those missing proceedings, and the final report on one of the bound-aries of the State, long sought for in vain, has been

ound in them.

In the course of my work I have, of course, made
In the course of my work I have, and had some In the course of my work I have, of course, made search for some missing material, and had some correspondence in the hope of enriching the archives of the State. These archives ought to be complete and perfect. I am, perhaps going beyond my province, but you will, I trust, excuse me for reminding you that the Assembly Journals from June, 1784, and for the year 1783, are missing, and have never been in print. John McKesson was Clerk of the Assembly in those years, and the Assembly Journal of January to July, 1781, was found among his papers in 1820, and then for the first time printed. He was an early correspondent of George Clinton, and I have, for that reason, begun an inquiry for his papers. It is not probable that the missing journals are among them, but it is possible that the newspapers of those times and the Journals of the Schate may supply all substantial portions of those Journals.

Orsamus H. Marshall, of Buffalo, a gentleman dis-

Senate may supply all substantial portions of those Journals.

Orsamus H. Marshall, of Buffalo, a gentleman distinguished for his historical researches and important contributions to the early history of our country, found in the British Museum in the Library of George the Third, a number of very early maps of the Province of New-York and of the western portion of the present State. One of them showed the names of proprietors and the tracts owned by them on the Iludson and Mohawk rivers, and I believe has not been published. He made a perfect copy of it, and at my request has deposited it with us to copy if we please. At the time of his visit the Museum had not catalogued the Library of George the Third, and our State Library has not received any such catalogue. I cannot find in my search for documents and paper illustrations of our history that that library has been examined.

A LETTER FROM JEFFERSON.

A LETTER FROM JEFFERSON. These papers contain mention of a letter from Jefferson, Secretary of State in 1793, to George Clinton, asking for copies of all our Indian treaties, and the answer of George Clinton and the papers showing that Sir William Johnson had renewed the Colonial treaties. I have some reason to believe that they are still in existence and may pos-

sibly be recovered.

But forgetting the lack of completeness in these papers in some mention of them as they are, or rather of what they prove, and I will mention that they show some decided changes in spelling. Throughout them "clothes" and "clothing are spelt "cloathes" and "clothing are spelt "cloathes" and "clothing are of the Peace, puts two small "fs" in place of a capital one, in his surname—the only case in which that aristocratic mode of spelling a family name is in these papers observed.

that aristoctatic mode of spelling a family name is in these papers observed.

We have in these papers evidence enough of the inability of the wise men of the Revolution to justify comprehend the energy that liberty and nuion would impart to America, and of its rapid rise in the elements of greatness. George Clinton did not anticipate the extremely rapid settlement of Western New-York and the decadence of Indian power and issuestance. We find him in 1783 expecting Fort. anticipate the extremely rapid settlement of Western New-York and the decadence of Indian power and importance. We find him in 1783 expecting Fort Stanwi to rise to great importance from the opening of the Indian trade. In October, 1779, John Jay expressed "a perfect and full conviction" that Schenectady was the only proper place for the seat of government. He thought in common with many of our statesmen that a mountain ridge was a more proper boundary of a State than a river, and, of course, that the ridge of the Green Mountains, and not the Connecticut River, should be the boundary between New-York and New-Hampshire; but he strangely adds: "The less our people have to do with the Connecticut River the better; I would rather see the productions of our country go to the sea by another route." Is it possible that he anticipated rivalry between the Hudson and the Connecticut, and thought that New-York might be equalled in commerce by some rival at the mouth of that grand river?

IMPORTANT HISTORICAL FACTS. The Clinton papers furnish conclusive answers to those who in a spirit of excessive charity would place the Tories of New-York higher in point of humanity and honor than the Whigs. That here and there perhaps in only one locality Whigs should have banded together and whipped and castigated Tory neighbors who had taken protection from the British and who were open in their hostility to the Nation, was not unnatural; butwe condemn it.even as it was condemned and put down by our ancestors. There were undoubtedly in those troubled and licentions times occasional reprehensible excesses of revengeful Whigs; but their action was open and avowed. These papers present the mass of the Tories truthfully. They were the supporters of Tories truthinly. They were the supporters of paint their faces and sneak alone or with them to the perpetration of deeds which shock humanity. They neted as spies, harbored the emissaries of the enemy, stole horses to supply their camp. There was indeed a respectable, in some instances I may say a noble, grade of Tories, who endangered all their interests through a mistaken loyalty. Of such were say a noble grade of forces, who endangered all their interests through a mistaken loyalty. Of such were Harrison, Van Schaack, Smith, Colden, and it is very gratifying to know that our forefathers were gen-erous toward such men. Vain is the effort to make Lady Johnson a heroine, and it is impossible to weep over the petty annoyances and trivial sufferings of a woman who seems to have had no tears for the multitude of Whig women and children who were dragged into Canada or resigned as their portions of the spoil to Indian captors. We cannot but agree with the declaration of General James Clinton in his answer to the infamous Walter But-

but agree with the declaration of obeleral James Cinton in his answer to the infamons Walter Butler's proposition for an exchange of prisoners that it was difficult in the light of history to believe that the British officers had exerted themselves to restrain the barbarities of the savages.

He who reads these papers and considers what they disclose of Sir John Johnson, the principal abettor of these outrages, cannot but regard with wonder the efforts of a justiy distinguished gentleman to make that career a noble one. It is a pleasant thought, however, that whatever there may be in heredity it does not forbid progress nor stamp into the intellect the errors, nor upon the soil the erimes, of a stupid or wicked ancestry. God does not rate us by our descent, and a rational community will prize a man for what he is and do es rather than by his genealogy. When the war was ended passion soon subsided, and the Tories of New-York, whether of high or low estate, who remained upon its soil submitted unto law and learned to love the freedom against which they had contended. Many of their descendants won honor and attained high consideration in the State.

high consideration in the State.

These papers have to do with so many matters of the highest interest that were I to endeavor to point out their bearings in these regards I should exhaust your patience. I will content myself with reminding you that until the Constitution of the United States went into effect, the State of New-York, like every other State, possessed and exercised all the sovereign powers which had been regigned and vested in the Confederate Government, but that in their exercise the Governor and Legis-

the market must govern prices. The absence of money and the want of confidence in its proper representative, though made legal-tender by law, made of very many eminent men of these early do not devolve upon their successors.

To say nothing further of their actions, the writings of very many emiment men of these early times, and many of the patriotic citizens of New-York who did not win prominent distinction—writings which were preserved only in the George Clinton papers—go far to prove that wisdom is unchanging. It is of God! Statesmanship varies little, if at all with the changing conditions of countries in their interrelations and interior strength: but statecraft is as variable as the occasions for its use. These papers contain evidences of the wisdom of our public men, as well as of cheir public and private virtue. In 1780 John Jay, then our Minister to Spain, wrote to George Clinton thus: "By her power, justice, commerce and consequence, America must expect to gain and keep friends. The equity of her cause is with many only a secondary consideration." This is an old truth; but is it not worth while to publish its entertainment and utterance by John Jay in 1780? Its people are the children as well as the authors of the State, bone of her bone, flesh of her flesh, and the fame as well as the maternal prosperity of her children is among her chiefest jewels, while her justice, liberality and wisdom bring to her an honor in the world's eye which binds her children reverently to her. I am persuaded that the resolve of the Legislature that this collection of papers should be thoroughly examined, indexed and prepared for publication, was wise and just. I am highly honored by your selection of me as your instrument for the work, and reverently pray for strength to perform it fully and worthily.

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN'S NEW OPERA.

There was a good deal less of curiosity and specu lation this time than last touching the character and name of the work which has occupied the at-tention of Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan since " Iolanthe" was launched. This may have been due in a degree to a feeling that the two arch fun-makers had reached the climax of their powers, and that, though they might continue to turn out an opera every year or two, it would be vain to expect the freshness of wit and affluence of melody which characterized "Pinafore," "The Pirates" and "Patience." "Iolanthe" betrayed a decline in both the text and music by exposing to the crowd a good many of the formulas which the clever Englishmen employed. Though not a failure in the common sense it fell much short of the success of its predeessors. Mr. Gilbert was unfortunate with his plot; the object of his satire was not obvious enough, and he spoilt its effect by mixing together fairies and noblemen in a manner that was too far-fetched even for Gilbertian extravaganza.

The new opera, which was produced the other evening at the Savoy Theatre, London, will have to contend at the outset with the drawback of being an old piece revamped. It is called "Princess Ida: or Castle Adamant," and is little more than Mr. Gilbert's old comedy, "The Princess," done over with new music. "'The Princess," said Mr. Gilbert when he printed it in a book of his plays in 1875, is a respectful parody of Mr. Tennyson's exquisite poen." In truth it is a burlesque, rather than a parody, which makes a hotch-potch of the original medley, and uses coarse, though good-humored, means to satirize the strong-minded women whom the laureate handled with such exquisite skill The course of the original narrative is followed in a way until the final scenes; these the funny Mr. Gilbert perverts utterly. Readers of Tennyson need not be told of the tenderness of the concluding pages of his poem; how the springs of womanly feeling are opened by the spectacle of the tourney, and how in the exercise of her functions as a ministering angel The Princess is drawn from her metaphysics into the path of love. All this, however, was not to Mr. Gilbert's purpose. He gives victory in the tourney to Prince Hilarion, Cyril and Florian. The Princess yields and in the tag comes the moral of the farce:

Hildebrand-Madam, you placed your trust in womanwell
Woman has failed you utterly—try man.
Give him one chance, it's only fair—besides
Women are far too precious, too divine,
To try unproven theories upon.
Experiments, the proverb says, are made
On numble subjects. Try our grosser clay,
And mould it as you will!

"The Princess" was brought out in January, 1870, in the Royal Olympic Theatre, London. Its dialogue was, of course, spoken, but it was enlivened with a number of songs for which music was borrowed from "La Perichole" and other comioperettas. It contained besides an extremely clever paredy of "Largo al factotum" from Rossini's Barber." In working it over for original music, Mr. Gilbert seems to have retained the greater part Mr. Gilbert seems to have retained the greater part of the dialogue unchanged, but has added a number of sougs, made portions of the dialogue to fingle, so that they might be the better set to the music of ensembles, and amplified portions of the original text to give framework to the patter song, and other; inevitable features of the Gilbert and Sullivan kind of opera. There must be an opening chorus, and so, while King Hildebrand's courtiers wait for the coming of King Gama, and look for him with telescopes and what not they sing:

s and what not they sing: Search throughout the panorama For a sign of royal Gama. Who to-day abould cross the water. With his fascinating daughter— Ida is her name.

Some misfortune evidently Has detained them—consequently search throughout the panorama For the daughter of King Gama, Prince Bilarion's flame. The description of Aing Gama remains unchanged

The description of Aing camb remains unenlarged, at m place of the amusing description of his baby ride which Prince Hilarion gives in the comedy, at the account of the wedding fenst:

Holls steeped in milk, and other softened food. Fit for our undeveloped little gums.

And talk of drink, I never shall forget. How merrily we passed the nursing bottle.

Mr. Gilbert has given Mr. Sullivan these verses o create a melody for: Ida was a twelvemouth old,

Twenty years ago!
I was twice her age, I'm told,
Twenty years ago! Husband twice as old as wife Argues ill for married life; Baleful prophecies were rife, Twenty years ago ! Still I was a tiny prince

Twenty years ago: She has gained upon me since Twenty years ago.

Though she's twenty-one it's true, I am barely twenty-two— False and foolish prophets you, Twenty years ago! The patter song comes in when King Gama intro-duces himself. Here is the third stanza:

I'm sure I'm no ascetic; I'm pleasant as can be I'm sure I'm no ascette; I in pleasant as can be you'll find me ever ready with a crushing repartee; I've an irritating chuckle. I've a celebrated sneer. I've an entertaining snigger. I've a fascinating loer; I've averybedy's prejudice! know a thing or two; I can tell a woman's age in half a minute—and I do; But although I try to make myself as pleasant as can, Yet everybody says I'm such a disagreeable man!
And I can't think why!

And I can't think way!

A last example will show clearly how Mr. Gilbert has gone to work to change some of his lines for music. In "The Princess," when Prince Hilarian resolves to do battle with the encastled ladies, and win the bride contracted to him twenty years before, he says:

re, he says:

Oh, don't mistake us, sir, we mean to storm
Their eyes and hearts and not their citadel.
With sighs we charge our mines and countermines:
Dance steps shall be our scaling ladders; with
Those croquet mallets for our battering rams;
Fair flowers shall bear the only blades we wield,
Our eyes shall be our very deadliest darts,
And bon-bon crackers our artillery! These lines have been changed into the following

Hilar. Expressive glances shall be our lances, And pops of Siliery Our light artillery. We'll storm their bowers With scented showers Of fairest flowers

Cho. Oh, dainty triolet, Oh, fragrant violet agh mere inanity, ch their vanity will rely! en day is fading, With serenading And such frivolity, We'll prove our quality. A sweet profusion Of soft iduston This bold intrusion Shall justify.

Cho. Oh, dainty triolet, etc. Hilar. We'll charm their senses With verbal lences, With balads amatory And declamatory And little heeding Their pretty pleading, Our love exceeding We'll justify.

Cho. Oh, dainty violet, etc.

TOPICS IN LEADING CITIES.

SAN FRANCISCO.

THE WATERMAN FAILURE-KALLOCH'S RE-TURN-HYDRAULIC MINING.

[BT TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] SAN FRANCISCO, Jan 12.-The failure of Waterman & Co. for \$1,500,000 is the second bad disaster among shipping merchants within a few months due to the great decline in wheat charters. The wheat ring here expected to make a fortunthis year, with charters at 60 cents a bushel But the surplus for export was only half their estimate, while charters dropped to thirty cents. This, with the low price of grain in Liverpool, has demoralized the wheat market here, and a number of other shipping firms are feeling anxious.

The distribution of the Lick bequests has at last been begun; but of five trustees charged with building the free public baths only one is in the city, and he will make no move in the matter. The sum of \$150,000 would seem ample to furnish a place for cleansing all the unwashed "hoodlums" of Tar Flat, especially as there are several good sites which can be secured at a small cost.

The Society of California Pioneers, which was egged on by the press to protest against the slowness of the settlement of the Lick estate, has begun to show some energy. It has decided to build hall on its Market-st, lot, and realize some benefit before death claims them all.

Less than the usual number of "traders" came in the Chinese ships which arrived on Wednesday. Several had a dubious record and were refused admittance. Unusual precautions were taken, as a placard was posted in "Chinatown" a few days ago telling the merchants how they could help their friends to evade the restriction act.

THE TRIBUNE'S approval of the proposed world's fair here was much appreciated as one of the few examples of unprejudiced opinion in regard to the growing importance of San Francisco; and it has helped the movement, which only needs active interest among wealthy business men to make it a

Kalloch, ex-preacher and ex-Sand-Lot Mayor, has proved that nothing is so volatile as the notoriety of a demagogue. He returned this city recently, and in the old Temple in which he so often addressed large audiences he lectured to a corporal's guard on the prevalence of shooting affrays in California. Good taste would have suggested that this was the last subject for him to touch. He is said to be going into the real estate business on the northern coast, but he probably came here to see how he would be received. The result could not have been more flattering to his pride than was the sudden collapse of his prestige to his old associate, Dennis Kearney. Of the two, Kearney had the more sincerity and honesty.

Following the example first set at the East by THE TRIBUNE, the two leading newspapers here have established a personal column, giving gossip of men about town. It is a good field for such work, as the city has many picturesque features and types of character.

The decision of the Woodruff debris case against the hydraulic miners caused much rejoicing among farmers in the valley counties. Mining is enjoined perpetually, with a modification that if any satisfactory method of impounding debris be invented the rigor of the injunction may be softened; but as no such appliance has yet been successful, the farmers hope to see no more of "slickens," The miners will appeal the case to the Supreme Court, but it is thought that the decision of the lower court will be affirmed. One thing which operates against the miners is that three quarters of the large properties are held by foreign capitalists, and the owners never spent a dollar of their dividends in this State. whereas the farmers represent the industry which contributes directly to the growth and wealth of the State.

CHICAGO.

THE SALE OF THE LAKE FRONT-THE EX-POSITION BUILDING-THEATRICAL.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.) CHICAGO, Jan. 12 .- A prominent topic of discussion this week has been the proposed sale of the Lake Front property between Randolph and Monroe sts. to the Illinois Central Companies for the sum of \$800,000, the city to give a quit-claim deed and to reserve the protection of the riparian rights and the submerge lands one inch along the cast line, which is to be leased perpetually to the companies. The proposition has not yet been acted upon in the Conneil, but it seems to meet with general approval. Should the sale be made, the railroad companies will at once commence the erection of a magnificent union

A second topic for excited discussion has been the order issued to the Exposition Company to vacate its premises, as it has refused to pay the rental demanded by the city, accompanied by vague threats that the building would be pulled down if it refuses to leave. Nearly all the directors are at present out of the city, so that no action will be taken by them until next week. Meanwhile, Republican National Committee that the building will not be where it is.

As the close of the license year draws nigh some of the saloon keepers are agitating ways and means to the more radical men even threaten a political campaign for the defeat of the law. Meanwhile, however, the most of them will probably pay their license, and there is a feeling among the Aldermen in favor of making no distinction between beer and spirituous liquor, and taxing them at the uniform rate of \$500. There will be an effort made to have the Legislature repeal the bill, but it will fail.

The Rapid Transit Commissioners of New-York, and the engineers and others who accompanied them, made a thorough examination of the cable road yesterday. All the Commissioners were favorably impressed, and, while none of them would commit himself, it was the impression of those with them that they would recommend the adoption of the cable system in New-York.

adoption of the cable system in New-York.

Mr. Irving has had a successful week at Haverly's, appearing in "Louis Xi." and the "Merchant of Venice," and has made an enthusiastic impression upon some of the finest audiences which have ever assembled here. In a social way also the week has been a plensant one for him. He has been given a breakfast at the Chicago Club by Colonel John B. Carson, at which speeches were made by the guests, Mayor Harrison, Joseph Medill, George M. Pullman, William Warren, the veteran comedian, General Schofield, Hatton, the historian of the troupe, and others. In company with Miss Terry he has been shown the lious of Pullman, and this evening they were tendered a reception by the Press Club.

The sale of seats for the Abbey opera season,

The sale of seats for the Abbey opera season, which begins at Haverly's on January 21. was very large, and the attendance promises to be augmented by large excursions from various points in Mapleson's season begins a week later at McVick-

er's and continues two weeks, so that the two seasons will overlap each other. Meanwhile Matthew Arnold will manage

Meanwine statues Arion with manage squeeze in his appearance on January 22 and 24, which will be operatic off-nights. During his stay in the eity he will be the guest of General McClurg, and will also be tendered a reception by the Literary Club.

ST. LOUIS.

FIRES-GAMBLING-FRANK JAMES-SIMON CAMERON-CATTLE GROWERS.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] St. Louis, Jan. 10 .- The Belleville Convent horror continues to be a leading subject of comment. is generally believed that the estimate of fatalities falls short of the fact and that the inquest by no means brought out all the truth concerning the terrible affair. While no witnesses were examined on the subject, it is common talk in Belleville that the boarders were kept

ligious residents of the convent-twenty-six sisters and five novices-only four were lost; of thirty-two boarders, twenty-two perished in the flames. In the published reports of the fire very high-flown descriptions were given of the heroism of the sisters, but the general opinion is that the published statistics fall to substantiate what was written in this respect. With a mortality of only 12 per cent among the sisters and of 70 per cent among the boarders, unexplained by the coroner's inquest, it is thought that the inquiry was by no means as searching as it should have been, and that a further and fuller in estigation would be of advantage.

The coincidence of very cold weather and a succession of

t. Louis-a promised reorganization and enlargement of the fire department. For several days subsequent to the last of the fires a water famine prevailed in the larger portion of the city, the fire department apparatus was reduced to an almost unserviceable condition, and the firemen were utterly worn out and incapable of further exertion. As a matter of fact the city was at the mercy of any serious fire which might have occurred. These facts have thoroughly aroused the underwriters, who, however, have always been so cavalierly treated whenever they ventured to suggest improvements to the civil authorithat they have tacitly agreed to allow matters to correct themselves in the future. The losses to the under writers, in the late fires here, amounted to about one million dollars, and as a result it is certain that a large number of the insurance companies doing business here will withdraw. At present the rates for insurance here are largely in excess of those charged in all the other large cities of the country. None of the larger merchants can get all the insurance they want, and they are being notified that the rate will be raised 30 per cent before long, and after the withdrawai of companies now doing business here they will so even higher, so that the question of an inefficient fire department in its relation to the city's business interests promises to be an absorbing one before long. While the local insurance men are saying little, they are quietly devising some means by which the St. Louis field may be improved instead of abandoned, and it is very probable that, before long, measures will be taken to secure the services of some thoroughly competent man to supervise the reorganization of the fire department, just as was done in Chicago when the Eastern underwriters decided that they would take no more risks there unless General Shaler was engaged to bring order out of their chaos. He did this, and for ten years since then Chicago has been a source of profit to the insurance companies, while for the past five years St. Louis has been

The Police Board's fight against Chief Campbell has finally resulted in his dismissal and the appointment of "Major " Lawrence Harrigan as his successor. Harrigan was chief of police some years ago, and was forced to resign under circumstances which lead many to believe that a bribe of a thousand dollars was the cause of his downfall. There is no doubt that the Police Board are organizing for a rich plunder this year. There is a strong probability of the Democratic National Convention coming here, in which case "privileges" to conduct a game of fare will be worth a small fortune. " Major Harrigan is what is admired out West as " a gran of nerve," and while it will require no ordinary amount that quality to inaugurate an era of gambling in the face of public opinion, he is generally credited with its

Word comes from Independence, Mo., that Frank James is dying, his prison life having brought him so low that his recovery from an attack of pneumonia is despaired of. His demise will hardly be heard of with reret by one or two of his lawyers who went into his case for the glory of the thing and now find themselves liable to be called upon to supply him with gratuitous legal advice for quite a long time to come. One of these—ex-Lieutemant-diovernor Charles P. Johnson of this city—had a very sad experience during Frank James's trial at Gallatin which has not yet been made public. Mr. Johnson's forte lies in reducing the stony-hearted jurer to a condition of tearful sympathy, and, according to agreement, made among himself and the other lawyers engaged in the cut-throat's defence, he was to make the closing effort in behalf of the defendant, and make the closing effort make the closing effort in behalf of the defendant, and make the closing effort maked Phillips, however, whose speech, by the same agreement, was to have consisted of a dry, logical disposition of the facts in the evidence in support of the allid theory, could not resist the opportunity of displaying his powers in the lachrymose line. Instead of treating his subject statistically, he innehed forth into a set oration, covered all the pathetic points in the case, reduced the jury to tears, and so completely took the wind out of Mr. Johnson's sails that when his turn to speak came he found himself entirely at a loss, and sat down after a brief and, naturally, not very satisfactory. to be called upon to supply him with gratuitous legal adwu after a brief and, naturally, not very satisfactory,

Word comes from Hot Springs, Ark., that the venerable Simon Cameron has derived great benefit from the thermal bath and that he will start for Mexico about the 20th inst. When he arrived at Hot Springs he was much wearfed and there were fears that he might sink under the strain of such long travel, but he is now considered out of danger and in a much stronger condition physically than before he started West.

Efforts are being made to secure the presence here of a convention of the National Cattle Growers' Association. This body, as yet, is not in existence, but active measures, which had their origin here, are being taken to form it, and a powerful novement has been started to have it select St. Louis as its birthplace. Chicago is known to be making efforts in the same direction, but, as the majority of the delegates will be from the Southwest, it is believed they will find the distance between their homes and Chicago too great to allow of that city's selection.

BOSTON.

RAILROADS - POLITICS - EDUCATIONAL THE UNITARIAN CLUB-MUSIC.

FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] Boston, Jan. 12 .- The forthcoming report of the finances of the New-York and New-England Railroad is looked for with great interest as likely to show the manner of its coliapse. Any truth, however ugly, would be less unfavorable than the present uncertainty, taking advantage of which all sorts of instructions flourish rankly. The latest whispered story is that there has been a systematic wrecking of the road, of which the receiver ship was the natural culmination, being engineered by the same parties who have profited by the coporation's perate necessities for money. The statements apply telegraphed from Boston that the late meeting of iesperate necessities for the Board of Directors showed that "harmony" had been secured, was too " previous." The members of the board there is no occasion for alarm on the part of the | who were taken by surprise in the midnight appointment of a receiver, while recognizing the fact of the existence of the receivership, do not abate their disapproval of the steps that have been taken in that business. The end is

Boston's interest in the Oregon and Northern Pacific evade the high license another year, and some of the more radical men even threaten a political cam-But its interest in the Union Pacific is more commanding still. It is said that 97,797 shares transferred from New-York Boston in a week's time, until now New-England owns 410,000 out of the 600,000 shares of this railroad. The statistics of the Bell Telephone Company's output, another great interest here, show that the highest point has been reached and passed for the present.

Butler was the great gun at the Jackson 8th of January banquet, here, apparently because his presence pre-cinded that of other prominent public men. Beyond a wild and vague threat that if the Democrats did not get the National Government at the next election something dreadful (probably meaning ism) would happen, his speech was like the rest of the speaking, mere sound and buncombe.

The new regime at the City Hall already begins to improve the appearance of things. The first order of Mayor Martin was to direct the city employes to inquire of loit-cress about the Hall what their business was, and make them "move on." The crowds of tide-waiters infesting the passages there during the past year have thus been cleared out. The King dies hard, however. Retaining a majority in the Common Council, it resorted to the highhanded tyranny of giving each of its men a numbered ballot with the name of the Ring candidate for President on it, and none of the Ring's creatures thus numbered off dared to vote against the appointed candidate.

The report of the President of Harvard University points out that the comparatively slight increase of the number of students is atoned for by the wider distribu tion of the students and their influence among the Middle States. The President's severe ridicule of the employment of professionals and the tricks of professionals in college sports is much approved.

The Rotch prize for architects has been made ublic during the week. A fund is established public during the week. A find is celebrated by the three sons of the late B. S. Rotch, in accordance with his wish, by which a young architect, to be selected by competitive examination, is to be sent each year to travel in Europe for two years. This will keep two architects all the time in the enjoyment of the fund. Candidates must be under thirty, resident in Massachnactte, and have worked two years in an architect's office.

The Unitarian Club's dinner this week developed the fact that the new Governor of the State and the new Mayor of this city are members of that denomination. The Rev. James Freeman Clarke's speech on the occasion dwelt on the proof Unitarianism afforded that creed and close church organization were non-essentials in Christianius, and the second of the control of th anity's true work.

antiy's true work.

The musical event of the week has been the second public performance of little Miss Amy Marcy Cheney, the planist. A prodigy she is, nevertheless a healthy, simple, unspoiled child and a sound musician. She was four years the publi of Ernst Perabo, but has latterly been studying under Professor Baermann. Her technique is faultiess, but her natural musical intelligence is still more delightful.

Manager Field, of the Boston Museum, says that the dismal reports of the new Gibbert and Sullivan piece, sent

and that only when it was too late was an attempt made to release many of them from their dormitories. The summary of the disaster goes far to show that there is grave ground for this serious charge. Of thirty-one re-

ART NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE WEEK IN ART CIRCLES.

EXHIBITIONS PRESENT AND TO COME-PLANS OF THE METROPOLITAN ART SCHOOLS-NOTES IN GALLERY AND STUDIO-ART NEWS OUT OF TOWN. This is the last day of Mr. Clarke's exhibition of American pictures. The American Art Gallery will be open from 9 this morning until 6 p. m., and catalogues will be distributed gratuitously. During the past week

there has been a marked increase in the attendance

ery serious fires has resulted in a charge much needed in From 200 to 300 people have visited the exhibition daily, and it closes with the record of more visitors than an other exhibition in this gallery. The receipts will amount to nearly \$1,000. In addition, about \$1,600 has been thus far subscribed to the Clarke Prize Fund. The Clarke Collection will be succeeded at the American Art Gallery by the special exhibition of America pictures, containing over 100 works. The wide range of the exhibition is indicated by the names of J. B. Bristol, J. C. Beckwith, S. J. Guy, Charles M. Dewey, J. G. Brown, W. A. Coffin, Percival DeLuce, Harry Chase, M. F. H. De Haas, J. F. Cropsey, J. W. Champney, Birge Harrison, Hamilton Hamilton, W. B. Baker, J. H. Dolph, Charles H. Faton, F. D. Millet, H. Bolton Jones, and Thomas

> The following extract is from a circular recently issue in behalf of the Metropolitan Art School, at No. 214 East Thirty-fourth-st : The necessity for these Industrial Art Schools has be

> Eakins. Boston art will be represented by Messrs.

George Fuller, J. Appleton Brown, Thomas Allen and

J. J. Enneking. The private view will be held on Thurs-

day next, and the exhibition will be opened to the public

Thirty-fourth-st:

The necessity for these Industrial Art Schools has become more and more apparent to the trustees of the Metroplitan Museum. For many years our artisans and mechanics have shown great lack of artistic taste and knowledge, and were practically destitute of orarinality in design. As a natural consequence, bad forms, improper treatment and handling of material, false construction and tasteless decoration, are found in most of our industrial work. The trustees are satisfied, from general observation and from experience in particular cases, that there is ample dormant talent among the working youths of this city, which, if encouraged and developed, would furnish to New York a noble class of mechanics and artificers. In European capitals, like London, Paris and other cities, the opportunities for development through industrial schools which receive national encouragement, bring out and educate the talent that otherwise might have remained unknown, thus raising the standard of tasts in their communities and becoming the means of erriching their nation and manufacturers, as well as securing superior wages to workmen who obtain these advantages. Experience showing that it is possible to secure a more thorough and advanced education at the school than at the shop, where there is frequently small time for instruction in theory or detail. It is therefore proposed to furnish facilities not hitnerto attainable in this country to artists and artisans, to provide therough technical instruction in painting, decoration, designing, modelling, carving, free-hand, arothetcural, instrumental and perspective drawing; also in carriage drafting and construction as a specialty, and to furnish an equaintance with the theory and practice of the arts.

There is appended an earnest appeal for "solid donations of funds or contributions of appropriate aids" with which

There is appended an earnest appeal for "solid donations of funds or contributions of appropriate aids" with which to provide medals or other prizes, scholarships and diplo mas, as well as to establish a permanent salesro The fece for instruction in the various classes are at present \$5 and \$10. The schools are under the general direction of Mr. John Ward Stinson. The studio views of the "Niagara" which Mr. George

Inness has given during the past week have been occasions of marked importance to both amateurs and artists. It was interesting to find that the originality and nervous force which have given Mr Inness so high a rank among landscape painters were maintained unimpaired in a subject so entirely at variance with his usual selections. That an adequate impression of Niagara can never be con veyed by brush or pen is a proposition which will probably receive assent from those who are familiar with the cataract. Artist or writer can hope for at Cest but a partial success, and the ambitious task is therefore thankless one. But it is always possible to judge of the measure of success which has been reached, and in Mr. Inness's case this is well worth recognition. He was equipped for his labor of love by the broad and individual views which have always led him to make his own path in art, by an extremely subtle color sense, and by a delicate and well-trained hand. His coloring in the "Niagara" is impressive from the skill with which he has kept in tone the varying shades of green and blue, the emphatic emerald hues of the greater volumes of water, and their pendants of spray and mist. But it should not be understood that Mr. Inness has hesitated to bestow due vigor and emphasis upon his colors-indeed no one would think this who knows his work. He has not forgotten the glow and sparkle of the waters, nor are their majesty and grandeur lost upon his canvas. He has conveyed some idea of their sublimity, and this is certainly saying much. For an artist to sur the blood and fire the imagination by a pictured delineation of Niagara is no slight accomplishment-for from the sublime to the ridiculous-well, the saying is applicable, though trite. One fine point of contrast in picture is that between the tremendous sweep over the falls and the shore line on the Canada side wrapped in a dreamy atmosphere of summer haze. It is to be hoped that Mr. Inness will consent to exhibit this picture with others of his works in some public gallery.

The subject suggests a story. Some time ago a wellknown amateur of this city was talking with Mr. F. E. Church about his painting of Niagara. Naturally the works of other artists who have pitted themsely against the cataract were mentioned. As one name followed another, the amateur exclaimed, "Why, I believe all the artists are having a hack at Niagara." "Mr. ---," replied Mr. Church quietly, "if I remember correctly, backs at Niagara are very dear."

The experiences of Dr. Haden and Mr. Herkomer in this country last year seem to have caused the belief among foreign artists that America is a fruitful field, From England, Messrs, Farrer and Moscheles have already arrived among us; there are one or two German artists in our midst, and M. Bastien-Lepage is expected to arrive here soon and share Mr. Weir's studio. Meantime, Mr. Henry Blackburn, editor of the "Royal Academy Notes," is sowing asthetic seed by his lectures. Another new arrival is Mr. David Neal, who, although a native of Lowell, Mass., has made Munich his home for years. The German press last year contained frequent and generally favorable references to Mr. Neal's painting, "Cromwell and Milton." This picture, which will soon reach this city, has been purchased by Mr. H. B. Hurlburt, of Cleveland. Another work by Mr. Neal, "Marie Stuart," is owned by Mr. D. O. Mills. It is stated that during his visit, Mr. Neal will occupy the studio used by the late Thomas Le Clear.

The managers of the Brooklyn Loan Exhibition have issued a large catalogue handsomely printed upon heavy paper with broad margins, but not illustrated. As an ap-pendage to the list of pictures follows a series of personal opinions regarding various artists, which if not highly countries are always enthanisms. winal, are always enthusiastic.

The Art Interchange of January 3 contains a "be-tal pink Azaica colored study," designed by "The A-ctated Artists."

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One of the latest purchases made by the distinguished amateur, Mr. W. T. Walters, of Baltimore, is the famous "Saint Behastlen" of Corot. In the fereground the wounded easant lies upon some drapery while two women bind up his wounds. Trees with silvery gray foliage rise on either side, meeting to form an arch at the top of the sanvas through which are seen the departing persecutors of the saint. Two cheroliums look down from above. This picture was first exhibited at the Saion of 1853. It was shown again, after some modifications in trees and background, at the "University Exhibition" of 1867. In 1871 Corot gave the picture as a prize in a lottery held in aid of the wounded in the Franco-German war. Durand-Ruel, the dealer, to whom the winner of the prize offered to sell it, objected to the round corners, making the picture a rectangular work some ten feet in height. Burand-Ruel then bought the painting for \$1,800, and sold it for \$3,000. A Mr. Barlow was its first English owner, from whom it passed to Mr. Walts, who sold it for \$3,000. A most of the was a within a few months been the subject of much admiring comment from the English newspapers. In the list of Corot's more claborate compositions of landscapes with figures, such as the "Daphuis and Chioe," 1845, "Homer and the Shepherds," "Carrist in the Garden of Olives," 1849, "Macocha." 1859, "Dante and Virgil," "Dance of Nympas," 1861, "Orpheus," and "Biolis Changed Into & Spring," This picture is counted as among the most important examples of the artist's best manner.

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The Becherel collection lately sold in Parts contained three pictures attributed to Corot, and two to Diaz. Just before the sale the experts in charge learned that all five were forgeries. The pictures were withdrawn. It will be interesting to mark their next appearance.

Mess: s. Schneider, Campbell & Co., recently had on exhibition a marble statuette, by W. G. Turner, formerly of Newport, R. L., and now residing in Italy. It was chilled "The Fisherman's Daughter," and was remarkable for its delicacy of treatment and exquisite pose. It gave eithened to the shore with a wistful commensance as if gazing into the dence of careful study, and presented the girl standing on the shore with a wistful countenance as if gazing into the distance, looking and hoping for her father's refurn. This is one of the few examples of Mr. Turner's that have been crimbined in this country. This figure was only exhibited for a few days and now adorns the parlor of one of our wealthiest citizens. Mr. Turner was a competitor for the work of making the heroic statue of Commodore Perry to be erected by the city of Newport, and the committee has decided to accept his design.

decided to accept his design.

Mr. Samuel Cousins, R. A., the eminent English engraver, at the age of eighty two has retired from his prefession. His time of active work extended over a period of fifty-six years. Even at this day his general health is excellent, but his failing eyeaight has induced his refirement. Bays The Pail Mail taxethe: "We do not anticipate that any one who is competent to express an opinion with healtate to admit that Mr. Cousins is the first faights and graver of his age." A collection of Mr. Cousins's works, embracing some eighty-six proofs, to now on exhibition is London.

The Pall Mall Gazette remarks apropos of the exhibition of Sir Joshua Reynolds's works that "It will comprise more than two hundred pletures, representing all the phases of the artist's skill, from Lord Morley's prolitation portraits and Lord Catheart's beautiful classical group to the latest works attainable from the caset."